

Farm, Garden & Household.



MAY.

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OUR RICE CROP.

Advices from New Orleans speak in glowing terms of the increase in the rice culture in that State, and represent that it pays a more reliable profit than the cultivation of sugar-cane. In 1872 Louisiana produced about 23 per cent. of the whole American rice crop, and in 1873 her percentage was higher still. But the General American production of rice has fallen off heavily, as will be seen by the following figures from the census:

Crop of 1870	Imports	Exports
1870	1,525,000	39,088,000
1871	1,525,000	39,088,000
1872	1,525,000	39,088,000
1873	1,525,000	39,088,000
1874	1,525,000	39,088,000
1875	1,525,000	39,088,000
1876	1,525,000	39,088,000
1877	1,525,000	39,088,000
1878	1,525,000	39,088,000
1879	1,525,000	39,088,000
1880	1,525,000	39,088,000

The following figures show the exports of domestic and the imports of foreign rice:

Year	Imports	Exports
1870	1,525,000	39,088,000
1871	1,525,000	39,088,000
1872	1,525,000	39,088,000
1873	1,525,000	39,088,000
1874	1,525,000	39,088,000
1875	1,525,000	39,088,000
1876	1,525,000	39,088,000
1877	1,525,000	39,088,000
1878	1,525,000	39,088,000
1879	1,525,000	39,088,000
1880	1,525,000	39,088,000

It is gratifying to know that our rice-growers expect to cultivate a far greater breadth in rice. The area embraces the two Carolinas, Georgia and Louisiana, the crops of which in rice are given thus:

State	1870	1871	1872
South Carolina	1,525,000	1,525,000	1,525,000
Georgia	1,525,000	1,525,000	1,525,000
Florida	1,525,000	1,525,000	1,525,000
Alabama	1,525,000	1,525,000	1,525,000
Mississippi	1,525,000	1,525,000	1,525,000
Arkansas	1,525,000	1,525,000	1,525,000
Louisiana	1,525,000	1,525,000	1,525,000
Missouri	1,525,000	1,525,000	1,525,000
Illinois	1,525,000	1,525,000	1,525,000
Indiana	1,525,000	1,525,000	1,525,000
Ohio	1,525,000	1,525,000	1,525,000
Michigan	1,525,000	1,525,000	1,525,000
Wisconsin	1,525,000	1,525,000	1,525,000
Minnesota	1,525,000	1,525,000	1,525,000
Nebraska	1,525,000	1,525,000	1,525,000
Kansas	1,525,000	1,525,000	1,525,000
Oklahoma	1,525,000	1,525,000	1,525,000
Idaho	1,525,000	1,525,000	1,525,000
Montana	1,525,000	1,525,000	1,525,000
Wyoming	1,525,000	1,525,000	1,525,000
Utah	1,525,000	1,525,000	1,525,000
Nevada	1,525,000	1,525,000	1,525,000
Arizona	1,525,000	1,525,000	1,525,000
California	1,525,000	1,525,000	1,525,000
Nevada	1,525,000	1,525,000	1,525,000
Idaho	1,525,000	1,525,000	1,525,000
Montana	1,525,000	1,525,000	1,525,000
Wyoming	1,525,000	1,525,000	1,525,000
Utah	1,525,000	1,525,000	1,525,000
Nevada	1,525,000	1,525,000	1,525,000
Arizona	1,525,000	1,525,000	1,525,000
California	1,525,000	1,525,000	1,525,000

Carolina rice brings a better price than that from India, and is always a preferred article both at home and abroad. Hence nothing but the cheapest and abundance of the Indian rice could have secured for it the control of the European and American markets. From the figures we give, which are quoted from a mercantile circular, it will be seen that Carolina is still the great leading rice State. Louisiana is making steady progress, and has so large a breadth of surface available for the crop that it is becoming a leading interest there. In Florida, where the area available for the rice culture is considerable, nothing has been done, in consequence of the smallness of the population.

At the attention now directed to the subject since the Indian famine set in could be made practical, the rice culture might be extended over all the regions referred to, and the American rice crop regain the great proportions it attained in 1850, for it is not in 1860 we must look back as the most prosperous year, the culture having already suffered before 1860, as before noticed. The fact that American rice was exported during the whole period of its decline arose from its being a superior article. The Indian rice dominates the market only through its cheapness and abundance, and this being now cut off by the famine the opening is a great one.

FRIZZLED BEEF.—Into a pan put slices of dried beef, with just enough boiling water to cover them. Let them cook ten minutes and drain off the water. If not fine enough cut smaller. Return to the pan with a lump of butter the size of a walnut, and a little pepper. To a quarter of a pound of beef allow two eggs, beat well together, and when the beef is hot, stir in. Cook about three minutes, and send to table hot.

GRAPE JAM.—Boil the grapes in just water enough to make them tender, strain them through a colander, then in one pound of pulp put one pound of sugar; boil this half an hour; the common wild grape makes a nice jam.

WAFLES.—One quart of flour, one pint of sour milk, one teaspoonful of soda, four eggs, a piece of butter the size of a large egg, and a little salt. Bake in waffle iron. Sour cream and less butter improves them.

PICKLED ONIONS.—Peel off the outer skin of small onions, boil them until clear or half cooked, in salt water, and throw them while smoking hot into a jar of cold vinegar, spiced.

MANAGEMENT OF A HOUSEHOLD.

Young ladies cut this out and pin in your bonnets: "No young woman ought to feel herself qualified to become a wife until she is sure she understands how to do the most that can be done with her husband's money, the management of a household is not a thing to be properly and safely entrusted to hiring hands. A servant is a broken reed for the head of the family to lean upon. There are a thousand little ways in which money must be expended, in which real shrewdness and enterprise are requisite in order to use it to the best advantage; and there are a thousand other ways of saving money, open only to those who have studied aright the art of economy. The Turkish proverb has it, that a prudent woman is a mine of jewels, and like many other Oriental sayings, this is beautiful for the truth it embodies. A wasteful housekeeper not only actually robs those of whom she undertakes to manage, of the comforts it is her duty to provide for them, but keeps her husband's head over ears in debt, and makes the domestic life of a poor man a continual series of experiments in shaming it from one day to the next; in keeping the stomach full though the purse be empty."

STICKING PEAS.—A Correspondent of a London paper makes a suggestion as to sticking peas which is worthy of trial. He thinks that "to those who have to procure stakes at a great cost the following method will prove advantageous, being very cheap, simple, and easily performed. A few rough stakes should be obtained and driven into the ground on either side of the row, about twelve feet apart. These stakes should be of a corresponding height to that of the peas, and when the required number for a line is inserted, some bar twine or other strong cord may be tied to the end stake, and passed along the line of stakes, making a turn on each within a few inches of the ground, and as growth progresses, raise the next turn a little higher, advancing in succession until the plants attain their full height. These lines being run on at the right time, the tendrils of the peas will clasp firmly round them and support the plants quite equal to the well-known plan of sticking. Some imagine an advantage to be obtained in this way of training, as the vines get a better circulation of air, and pods can be gathered at all times without injuring the haulm."

HOW TO RAISE CHICKENS.—My practice in raising chickens is, to take them from the hen, then dig up the soil and place the coop on the fresh dirt, then put the chickens back, and the hen will roll in the dust and get the lice off much better than on grass land. I have tried both ways, and find the fresh dirt much the best for the health of the hen and chickens. In some instances I have used hog's lard for greasing the hen's wings and the head of the chick, thinking it a good way to kill lice. That and the fresh dirt and the right kind of food have raised my chickens. The food I give, till they are three or four weeks old, is Indian meal mixed with sour milk. I let it stand one day after being mixed, then it will be fit for use, it being swelled in the dish instead of the crop, otherwise it might result in death to the chick, for I have lost many by giving raw meal before it was soaked and swelled properly. After they have been cooped up a few days, let them out to take the air, but shut them up nights and rainy days, for chickens cannot endure very wet weather.—Cor. N. E. Farmer.

TO BROIL TOMATOES.—Broiled Tomatoes make a delicious dish; select those that are not over-ripe, and cut them in halves crosswise; dip the cut side into beaten egg and then into wheat flour, and place them upon a gridiron, whose bars have been greased previously. When they have become well browned, turn them over and cook the skin side until thoroughly done. Then put butter, salt, and pepper upon the egg side, and serve upon a platter.—Exchange.

OATMEAL GRUEL.—Mix a dessert spoonful of fine oatmeal or patent gruel with two tablespoonfuls of cold water and boil for ten minutes, stirring frequently. For a richer gruel, boil two tablespoonfuls of groats in a quart of water for an hour. Strain through a sieve; stir in a piece of butter large as a walnut and some sugar, nutmeg or ginger.

CHAPPED HANDS.—The simplest and best remedy for chapped hands is common starch. Pound it very fine, and rub over the hands after washing them.

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